



Town of Fairfax

Select Board Meeting

January 20, 2020 – 7:00pm

The drafted minutes presented below are unapproved subject to corrections and/or additions at the next Selectboard meeting. Those corrections and/or additions will be written to an amended version of the minutes, which will also be made available to the public.

Selectboard Members Present: Steve Cormier; Chair, Randy DeVine; Vice-Chair, Stephen Bessette, Duane Leach.

Public Present: Robby Rodimer, Carol Stanley, Dave Stanley, Bob Horr, Peter Lane and Sandy Lane.

Employees Present: Brad Docheff (Town Manager), Debbie Woodward

Call to Order: S. Cormier called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Announcements/Additions: One addition, Letter from John Moseley regarding Spooner Rd. Will be discussed following Employee Policy clarification.

Minutes

12-16-19 S. Bessette made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Duane. All in favor.

12-23-19 S. Bessette made the motion to accept the minutes as written, Seconded by Duane. All in favor

Accounts Payable & Payroll Warrants:

12-23-19 The Town and Utility warrants were reviewed by S. Bessette

12-30-19 The Town and Utility warrants were reviewed by Sheri

1-6-2020 The Town warrants were reviewed by Randy; Utility warrants were reviewed by S. Bessette.

1-13-2020 The Town and Utility warrants were reviewed by Duane.

1-20-2020 The Town and Utility warrants were reviewed by S. Cormier

Public Comment:

Correspondence:

- 2020 Liquor License Application for Erica's American Diner. S. Bessette made the motion to accept the application, seconded by Duane, all in favor.
- Credit Card Application- Fire Dept. The Fire Dept is one of the few departments without a credit card. To reduce employee reimbursement a card for \$5,000 has been requested with David Raymond as the authorized user. S. Bessette made the motion to apply for the credit card with a \$5,000 limit, seconded by Duane, all in favor.
- Certificate of Highway Mileage year ending February 10, 2020;

- Class 2 11.32 miles, Class 3 50.18 miles, State Highway 17.377 for a total of 78.877 miles. Randy made the motion to accept the highway mileage, seconded by S. Bessette, all in favor.
- Access Permit allocation; Paul and Karen Langelier on Buck Hollow Rd, approximately 400 feet from Rout 104. S. Bessette made the motion to accept the permit, seconded by Duane, all in favor.

Bob Horr- Discussion about intersections of 128 and 104:

Bob Horr, Dave Stanley, Sandy Lane & Peter Lane, all spoke about how dangerous these intersections are, and the accidents that have happened. While the town agrees, these are State Roads. Bob spoke of the Selectboard's involvement with a survey back in 2003 or 2004 requested from VTRANS. NRPC has also been involved with the study of this intersection. Peter Lane asked if the town could impress upon VTRANS that this is a real problem for Fairfax. Also, would more police patrol be available for excessive speeds in the area. The Town meet with NRPC recently about these areas. At this point the town will be pushing a traffic safety review. Fairfax resident Colleen Steen is still on the transportation committee (TAC) Brad will also reach out to the Sheriff's office and State Police about patrolling these areas.

Fairfax Fletcher boundary line discrepancy:

Fletcher has raised concerns about the town line adjusted by the 911 Board. An email was received from Tyler Hermanson addressing the issue off of West Street Road. The Fairfax Selectboard feels if the Town of Fletcher Listers would like to meet with Fairfax Assessor that would be fine. Any cost to survey will not be at the Fairfax expense. Fairfax isn't aware of any problem with the line.

2020 Employee Policy holiday pay clarification:

If an employee must work on a holiday, they will be paid double time for the hours worked. Full time employees are entitled to receive 8 hours of pay for each holiday. Part time employees are entitled to receive what their "normal" schedule is for the day. Example: Part time employee usually works 6 hours, they work 2 hours on the holiday= 2 hours at double time, then 4 hours at regular pay. The policy will be rewritten and reviewed at the next Selectboard meeting.

Addition:

A letter was received from John Moseley; owner of Spooner Farm. John would like the town to abandon the last section of Spooner Rd that runs through his property. In exchange, John is offering two parking spots past the front entrance into the VT Land Trust property in Georgia. Currently Spooner Rd is a class 4 road that the Town does not maintain, the section in question is blocked off by large boulders. There may be another property past the boulders. The Selectboard would want to see a new survey done, but not at the Town's expense. Brad has visited this site and will follow up with John.

Town Manager Updates:

- Rabies Clinic will be held by Stowe Veterinary Clinic on Saturday March 28, 2020 from 1:30 to 2:30 pm at 317 Fletcher Rd. (town garage)
- Town office room use, there is an opportunity to use the large conference room for yoga. Based on prior decision, the large conference room at the town office cannot be used for any exercise programs. Brad was looking for the reason behind this decision. S.

Cormier and Randy still feel that no exercise should be held in the room. S. Cormier asked to table this conversation to a later time.

- Project updates:
The Wastewater extension An RFQ was put out for a short time, but the construction schedule will be amended. An updated RFQ will be re posted at a later date. This project is projected to go to construction in the spring of 2021.
Town office landscaping; UVM students took part in a project to beautify the town office. Several designs with several price ranges were submitted. They all looked great. On the lower end was an estimate of \$8160. Brad would like to revisit this at another meeting.
Shepardson Hollow bridge; February 3rd at 10:00 there will be a pre bid meeting at the bridge location. Governor Phil Scott announced the President signed the declaration for the storm in October, Federal Funds will be available. We will see how this affects the project.
- Town Report; will be due to go to print on February 5th, the report will be available in the office on February 20th. Postcards will be mailed soon.
- 2020 is a U.S. Census year, they stronger urge all residents to participate. These results help determine how much money is distributed each year to states and localities for key programs.
- Budget review; Law Enforcement and emergency dispatch cost have been added to the budget. At 8:55 S. Cormier made the motion to close the budget, seconded by S. Bessette, all in favor (See budget minutes for additional information)
- It was asked if the Fire Dept. turn out gear qualifies as a capital expense and unused monies should be rolled over. The Board agreed the gear should be budgeted for and no need to roll over monies.
- An E Newsletter is in the works. Residents will be able to sign up to receive this by submitting their email to the Town Manager. We are hopeful for a February 2020 release.
- The Safety Committee met this morning, accidents and reporting were discussed; policy's will be put into place. In the spring there will be a required training for all employees.
- Zoning Violations; if a possible violation is spotted, there is a process in place. People are urged to contact via phone, email or in person to the Zoning Administrator, Amber Soter.

Other Business: A tentative date was discussed to sign the warrant items to go on the ballot. The warrant needs to be posted by January 31st.

At 9:05 S. Cormier made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss contract negotiations, seconded by S. Bessette

At 9:40 S. Bessette made the motion to exit executive session, seconded by Duane, all in favor

Three different contracts were reviewed. No action was taken.

Adjournment:

At 9:45 S. Bessette made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Duane, all in favor.

The minutes were respectfully submitted by Amy Sears; Administrative Assistant.

Steven Cormier
Selectboard Chair

**** The recorded meeting is available through LCATV or the Town's website. ****